

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A TRIBUTE TO AGNES E. GREEN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 26, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Agnes E. Green. Agnes E. Green is the eldest of seven children born to David and Agnes Cokley, and the mother of one son, Eric. She is currently the Assistant Director of Public Affairs at Spring Creek Towers and the Editor-in-Chief of its newspaper, The Spring Creek Sun.

Born and raised in Brooklyn's Bedford-Stuyvesant and now a resident of Prospect Heights, Agnes is an activist who possesses a strong desire to obtain the greatest good for her community.

While living in Crown Heights where her son was raised, she became active in the parent associations and often served as president. Her leadership was rewarded and she became a member on the Executive Board of the city-wide United Parents Association and later the Board President.

As a parent leader, Agnes gained a reputation as an independent, outspoken voice for all children's entitlement to a quality education and parents' rights to participate in their education. Because of her advocacy, she was asked by leaders of the CSD 17 Presidents' Council to represent them in the race for a seat on Community School Board 17. With the collective energy of parents and community support, she was elected in 1983 and in every Board election thereafter, until the New York City School Board was dissolved in 2004.

As a first term Board member, Agnes surprised many by becoming President of the CSB 17 and held other officer and committee chair positions throughout her 17 years as an elected school official.

She was appointed by Mayor Edward I. Koch to serve on the newly created AIDS panel for school-aged children in August 1985. She was the first parent representative to serve during one of the most contentious periods in the City's public school history. The panel reviewed the medical status and family history of children diagnosed HIV positive.

The end of the School Board did not diminish Agnes' commitment to urging the improvement of public school education. She is a founding member of Black New Yorkers for Educational Excellence, a citywide progressive organization whose mission is to actively work for education as a means of liberation.

Agnes, an honor student throughout public school, was also Bushwick High School's first Black and first female to be elected President of the Student Government Association. Her college education began at Brooklyn College and formally ended at New York University where she majored in Broadcast Journalism and minored in English literature.

After attending NYU, Agnes was hired by WCBS Newsradio 88 where she worked for 19 years. She began as a News Desk Assistant

and quickly rose to Chief News Desk Assistant. Through her many years at WCBS Radio she won numerous awards.

Agnes is currently the producer and host of Everyday People and Everyday Voices aired monthly on Brooklyn Community Access Television.

Her passions include outdoor music concerts, jazz festivals, live theatrical productions, taking photos, and collecting Black memorabilia.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize this outstanding journalist for all of her work.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Agnes E. Green.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MAUREEN CLARK

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 26, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Mrs. Maureen Clark for being awarded National Board Certification in Career and Technical Education Communication Arts by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

Maureen is 1 of 2 educators at Foothill High School in Henderson, Nevada to become nationally certified. National Board Certification is a process that requires 1 to 3 years of preparation and testing. Maureen completed an extensive portfolio of assignments, essays, and videotapes as well as tests which assessed her knowledge of the individual subjects she teaches. Once obtaining National Board Certification, a teacher is given the highest honor of professional teaching excellence. Only 116 of more than 20,000 teachers in the Clark County School District, less than 1 percent, have earned this distinction.

Mrs. Clark has a long and distinguished career as an educator. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Art Education from the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis and a Master's in Art Education from Northern Arizona University. She is an 18-year veteran teacher, teaching the last 7 years at Foothill High School. She currently teaches classes in Computer Graphics, Website Science, and Computer Graphic and 3D Animation. It is said that Mrs. Clark's classes are in high demand by Foothill students and her teaching approaches are described as innovative and exciting. After school, Mrs. Clark is the adviser for SkillsUSA, a club and national organization that prepares students for college by training them in technical, skilled, and service occupations. Under her advisement, SkillsUSA has competed and earned numerous state awards for its technology innovations. Maureen has made a profound difference in our community and we are most fortunate to have this leadership which positively impacts student achievement.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Maureen Clark. Her efforts to improve the

educational experiences of the student at Foothill High School are commendable. I congratulate her on her much deserved recognition and I wish her continued success.

A TRIBUTE TO LILLIAN ROBERTS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 26, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Ms. Lillian Roberts. Lillian Roberts is currently the Executive Director of District Council 37 of the AFSCME, AFL-CIO union. She represents 121,000 public workers in New York City, 50,000 of them retirees, 1,000 titles and 56 locals. She is also Vice President of the New York State AFL-CIO, Vice President of the NYC Central Labor Council and Secretary of the Municipal Labor Committee.

Lillian became a union activist as a Nurse's Aide working in a Chicago hospital in the 1950s. She spearheaded the creation of five locals and led an organizing drive at four Chicago hospitals.

Lillian came to New York City, built DC 37's hospital division and became Associate Director of DC 37. She distinguished herself by her skill as an organizer and her ability to connect with rank-and-file members. She established the DC 37 Education fund, the largest union-based adult education program in the country that offers union members a four-year degree with the College of New Rochelle. This program has become a model for unions nationwide.

During the late 1970s and 1980s, Lillian brought into the union thousands of workers in federally funded jobs. She found that experience to be a blueprint for creating unionized jobs for welfare recipients. She also developed the DC 37 Municipal Employees Legal Services program, which provides legal services to members and the DC 37 Personal Services Unit, which offers counseling to those with personal problems.

In 1981, Lillian became the first African-American woman named New York State Commissioner of Labor. During her 6-year tenure, she led the 7,500 employee body to increase the annual job placement level by 5 percent, obtained federal approval of a state plan for a Public Employees Occupational Safety and Health Program, and computerized unemployment insurance offices and the Job Service program.

Lillian was first elected DC 37 Executive Director in 2002 after serving as consultant to the union she helped build. She was re-elected to a 3-year term in January of 2004. In January of 2007, Ms. Roberts was overwhelmingly re-elected for her 3rd term.

Lillian currently leads the union where she had been a previous Associate Director and consultant. In the 1960s and 1970s, she played a major role in organizing new members into DC 37 and establishing an array of

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